

50X1-HUM

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

DATE DIST. 3 May 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE                Newspapers as indicated.

HEALTH MINISTRY REPORTS ON EPIDEMICS;  
KWANGTUNG PLAGUE EPIDEMIC CONTINUES

MINISTRY REVEALS EXTENT OF EPIDEMICS -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 4 Mar 50

Peiping, 3 March -- The Public Health Ministry of the Central People's government of China has issued the following statement regarding the recent epidemics in China:

1. Plague -- The outbreak in Kwangtung Province started in January 1950 and affected Lien-chiang and Sui-ch'i hsiens. Also in January, there was a plague outbreak in Fu-ch'ing, P'u-t'ien, Yen-hai, and three other hsiens in Fukien Province. The Fukien government dispatched plague specialists from the Southeast Antiplague Office into the affected areas. The Public Health Ministry sent Sa mu-la, chief of the Inner Mongolia Antiplague Unit, to advise and direct plague prevention work.

Plague also occurred in Wenchow of Chekiang Province. The Provincial People's government sent the 5th Battalion of the Antiplague Unit Headquarters to the affected area. The Public Health Ministry dispatched specialists from the Shanghai Quarantine Office. In Chahar and Inner Mongolia, prevention work was started in February. The Public Health Ministry is making preparations to establish the Chahar-Inner Mongolia Quarantine and Epidemic Prevention Station whose duty will be to destroy flea-bearing rats, to administer preventive inoculations, and to make surveys and do research.

2. Smallpox -- The smallpox epidemic recently ravaged Urumchi in Sinkiang, southern Szechuan, Ju-nan in Honan, the Shih-chia-chuang area in Hopeh, centra and southern Shantung, Nan-ch'ang in Kiangsi Province, Swatow, and northeastern Kwangtung. The Public Health Ministry sent some 300,000 units of vaccine to inoculate 20 million people.

- 7 -

~~CLASSIFICATION~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ **CONFIDENTIAL**

[illegible]

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

3. Other Diseases -- Other diseases which spread recently are acute plague in Tsao-yang and Hsiang-yang hsien in Hupeh Province, meningitis and diphtheria in Hsin-yang, Lo-yang, and Shan hsien in Honan Province, and spotted fever and typhoid fever in central and southern Shantung and Inner Mongolia.

PLAGUE UNIT GOES TO SOUTHERN KWANGTUNG -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 21 Feb 50

Fort Bayard, 6 February -- The 54 members of the joint antiplague unit of the Kwangtung Military District and the Kwangtung Province People's government, left Canton on 4 February to go to Fort Bayard. From there they are to go to plague areas in the vicinity of An-p'u to carry on antiplague work.

Important members of the plague unit include: Ts'eng P'ing (Ueda: 4661, 2899), chief, health office, Public Health Department, Central and South China People's government; Li Fu-hai (4735, 8148, 6182), chief, antiplague office, Public Health Department, East Kwangtung area; and Lo Shu-jen (9144, 5323, 170), representing the antiplague team, Public Health Office, Kwangtung Province People's government.

63 PLAGUE DEATHS IN KWANGTUNG -- Hong Kong Shih-pao, 27 Feb 50

Lien-chiang -- The plague epidemic in An-p'u, Lien-chiang Hsien, is still unchecked at present. Some 63 deaths, mostly children and women, have been counted thus far in ten villages east of An-p'u, including Chi-t'ou and Pei-t'an.

SOVIET AID REDUCES PLAGUE DEATHS -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 14 Feb 50

Mukden, 13 February -- The Northeast China People's government announced today that in 1947 more than 23,000 people died from plague in Northeast China. The same source stated that the epidemic resulted from the Japanese attempt to carry out bacteriological warfare in this area prior to its liberation by the Soviet troops.

The Northeast Executive Committee requested Soviet aid in combating the serious epidemic, and Soviet antiplague units helped cut down the number of plague sufferers from 30,326 people in 1947 to 5,947 in 1948, and only 417 people in 1949. The number of deaths from the disease was also reduced from some 23,000 in 1947 to 250 in 1949.

- E N D -

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**